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THE THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1960.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1961.

The health of the community has been good except for a severe epidemic of measles lasting from October 1960 to March 1961. There were 120 cases notified.

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis has continued to be satisfactory.

The water supply and sewerage systems have worked adequately.

I add a special report of the Public Health Officer.

Your obedient Servant,

J. R. F. Popplewell,

Medical Officer of Health.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health	J.R.F.Popplewell, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.(obst.), R.C.O.G.
Surveyor and Public Health Officer.	E.T.Little, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area 21,796 acres.
Population 2,530.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate.	19.	20.
Illegitimate.	2.	2.
	21.	22.
Still Births	Nil.	Nil.

Deaths.	Male.	Female.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Nil.	2.
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks.	Nil.	2.
Deaths of Infants under 1 week.	Nil.	Nil.
Total Deaths.....	14.	12.
Deaths from Cancer.....	2.	Nil.
Deaths from Tuberculosis.....	Nil.	Nil.

Infectious Diseases.

24 cases of Whooping Cough.
120 cases of Measles :-

	Male.	Female.
Under 1 year.....	1	1
1 year.....	3.	5.
2 years.....	10.	7.
3 years.....	7.	7.
4 years.....	4.	9.
5-9 years.....	30.	29.
10-14 years.....	4.	3.
	59	61.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Under 1 year.....	7.
2-8 years.....	23.
Boosters.....	11.

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis.

This is carried out by the County Council and the local general practitioners.

Laboratory Facilities.
Ambulance Services.
Nursing in the Home.
Inspection and Supervision of Food.
Clinics.

The facilities of all the above services are the same as last year.

Housing.

Houses completed during the year :-

Private	...	...	7.
Council	...	...	3. (Bungalows)

Council Offices,
THORNEY,
Peterborough.

June, 1961.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I have the honour to present my sixth Annual Report in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1961, as follows :-

NUISANCES.

19 Nuisances were investigated as follows :-

Premises (disrepair).....	4.
Sanitary accommodation.....	1.
Offensive accumulation.....	1.
Drainage.....	13.

Number of Nuisances abated as a result of informal action..... 19.

Number of Nuisances abated as a result of statutory action..... Nil.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS (see also Appendix 2).

Number of factories with mechanical power	6.
Number of factories without mechanical power	1.
Number of Inspections.....	12.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The Contractor who had been employed by the Council for many years terminated his contract in September, 1960. Public invitation for tenders for a new contract produced little response, only two tenders being received, the highest of which did not include for the use of a proper refuse collection vehicle. The alternative tender was accepted on a temporary agreement, as the Contractor was not able to provide collections as often as had previously been the case. The present service provides a monthly collection of household refuse throughout the district, and will again be reviewed by the Council after twelve months.

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928, &c.

39 current annual licences are in force in respect of the bulk storage of petroleum mixtures at 39 premises. No new licences were issued during the year. 32 inspections were carried out during the year.

MORTUARY.

4 bodies were received into the Mortuary during the year. No post-mortem examinations were carried out.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The Council had decided to suspend the operation of the Discretionary Grant scheme at the end of last year. 5 applications were received for Standard Improvement Grants, and grants were awarded in each case.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

As required by the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, a report on slaughtering facilities in the area was made to the Minister during the year, including the recommendation that subject to certain structural works being carried out, the existing slaughterhouse should be approved. The Minister confirmed the Report and appointed 1st April, 1961, as the day by which the slaughterhouse should comply with the construction regulations. The necessary works had not been completed on the appointed day, and slaughtering has therefore been discontinued up to the time of the preparation of this report.

CARAVANS.

Under the terms of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, inspections were made of all existing sites, and a schedule of standard conditions was prepared and approved by the Council, following consultations with neighbouring Authorities. Five sites for single caravans are now licenced under the Act, prior planning approval having been received. There are no multiple sites in the area of this Authority.

WATER SUPPLY.

Bulk water consumption for the district was 28,496,000 gallons or 78,070 gallons per day equivalent to 31 gallons per head per day in respect of the population served.

On chemical analysis, a sample of water taken in November, 1960, was shown to contain per million parts :-

Total solids dried at 180 deg.C	464.00
Suspended matter.....	absent.
Chlorides as Chlorine.....	31.95
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate.....	1.40
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite.....	absent.
Free and saline ammonia.....	0.112
Albuminoid ammonia.....	0.008
Temporary hardness.....	240.00
Permanent hardness.....	124.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80 deg.F. from N/80 $KMnO_4$.....	0.0
pH value.....	7.2.
Appearance.....	clear & bright.
Odour.....	None.
Taste and colour.....	normal.
Heavy metals.....	absent.
Free chlorine.....	0.10.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 degrees C in 72 hrs.....	1.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 degrees C in 24 hrs.....	0.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 degrees C in 48 hrs.....	1.
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 degrees C. in 48 hrs.....	0.
Bacillus Coli (presumptive) Absent in	100 mls.

WATER SUPPLY (continued)

Observations on the Analysis.

This sample of water falls into Class 1 (excellent) of the Ministry of Health's classification of piped water supplies, and is also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

Three samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination with results as follows :

Highly satisfactory	2.
Satisfactory	1.
Unsatisfactory	Nil.
Length of mains in miles	48.
No. of metered supplies - ½"	155.
No. of metered supplies - ¾"	18.
No. of new supplies provided :	
Domestic	4.
Non-domestic	2.
Burst mains repairs	17.
Burst services repaired..	6.
Hydrants and valves repaired	21.
Consumer meters repaired	16.
No. of informal notices served re waste of water or defective fittings ...	1.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The contract for the laying of a new foul sewer and water main to serve the north side of Wisbech Road, and a closet conversion scheme in respect of 41 properties commenced in October, 1960, and completion of the contract is anticipated by September, 1961. The original scheme was modified so that anticipated development on the south side of Wisbech Road amounting to some 200+ houses can be drained directly into the new sewer and thence by gravity to Gas Lane pumping station.

The existing sewers in Thorney village have worked well, and 19 blockages have been cleared during the year.

The existing sewage disposal works have operated satisfactorily, but it is anticipated that some modifications and improvements will be necessary when the proposed estate development in Thorney village takes place. The number of properties in the village will then have increased by one-third.

DISINFESTATION.

No call was made on this service during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Two supplementary milk licences are in force. All food premises have been inspected during the year. Two premises have been registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

MEAT INSPECTION (see Appendix I for Table of Disease Prevalence)

274 carcases of food animals were inspected during the year as follows :-

Cattle	61.
Calves	3.
Sheep	124.
Pigs	86

BUILDING BYELAWS.

46 plans were deposited in respect of new buildings and works. 92 visits and inspections were made.

SUMMARY OF VISITS & INSPECTIONS MADE.

Sewerage Contract (New Sewers)	192.
Nuisances.	28.
Water Supply.	243.
Factories & Workshops.	12.
Food & Meat Inspection.	64.
Foodshops.	8.
Canteens.	2.
Drainage & Sewerage.	47.
Drainage (new work)	39.
Caravans.	20.
Refuse Collection.	29.
Road Safety.	2.
Rodent Control.	21.
Improvement Grants.	19.
Committees, &c.	22.
New Buildings.	51.
Planning.	39.
Council Houses.	189.
Insect Pest Control.	2.
Miscellaneous.	96.
Petroleum Acts.	32.

NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS.

Office.	317.
At private residence.	113.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Council and to the other Officers and Staff for their help during the year.

E. T. LITTLE

Surveyor & Public Health Officer.

APPENDIX I.

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed.	57.	4.	3.	124.	86	-
Number inspected.	57.	4.	3.	124.	86.	-
All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.						
Whole carcases condemned.	2.	1.	-	-	2.	-
Part carcases condemned.	7.	1.	-	-	2.	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with these diseases.	15%	-	-	-	4.5%	-
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned.	2.	-	-	- -	-	-
Part carcases condemned.	3.	-	-	-	3.	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	8%	-	-	-	3.5	-
Cysticercosis. Part carcases condemned			Nil			
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration						
Generalised and totally condemned.						

APPENDIX II.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 AND 1938.

PREMISES.	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1.	2.	-	-
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced.	6.	10.	-	-
Other premises.	-	-	-	-
	7.	12.	-	-

NO. OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M.Inspector	by H.M. Inspector.	Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective.	-	-	-	-	-
	--	-	-	-	-